

Please amend the claims as follows:

1608. (amended) A method of treating a hydrocarbon containing formation in situ, comprising:
providing heat from one or more heaters positioned in heater wells to at least a portion of the formation;

allowing the heat to transfer from one or more of the heaters to a part of the formation;

wherein the part of the formation has been selected for heating using an atomic hydrogen weight percentage of at least a portion of hydrocarbons in the part of the formation, and wherein at least the portion of the hydrocarbons in the part of the formation comprises an atomic hydrogen weight percentage, when measured on a dry, ash-free basis, of greater than about 4.0 %; and

producing a mixture from the formation.

1609. (amended) The method of claim 1608, wherein the one or more heaters comprise at least two heaters, and wherein controlled superposition of heat from at least the two heaters pyrolyzes at least some hydrocarbons within the part of the formation.

1616. (amended) The method of claim 1608, further comprising pyrolyzing hydrocarbons within the part of the formation and controlling the heat such that an average heating rate of the part of the formation is less than about 1 °C per day in a pyrolysis temperature range of about 270 °C to about 400 °C.

1617. (amended) The method of claim 1608, wherein providing heat from one or more of the heaters to at least the portion of the formation comprises:

heating a selected volume (V) of the hydrocarbon containing formation from one or more of the heaters, wherein the formation has an average heat capacity (C_v), and wherein the heating pyrolyzes at least some hydrocarbons within the selected volume of the formation; and

wherein heating energy/day (Pwr) provided to the selected volume is equal to or less than $h * V * C_v * \rho_B$, wherein ρ_B is formation bulk density, and wherein an average heating rate (h) of the selected volume is about 10 °C/day.

1619. (amended) The method of claim 1608, wherein allowing the heat to transfer to the part of the formation heats the part of the formation to increase a thermal conductivity of at least a portion of the part of the formation to greater than about 0.5 W/(m °C).

1631. (amended) The method of claim 1608, wherein the produced mixture comprises a non-condensable component that does not condense at 25° C and one atmosphere absolute pressure, wherein the non-condensable component comprises molecular hydrogen, wherein the molecular hydrogen is greater than about 10 % by volume of the non-condensable component, and wherein the molecular hydrogen is less than about 80 % by volume of the non-condensable component.

1641. (amended) The method of claim 1608, wherein allowing the heat to transfer increases a permeability of a majority of the part of the formation to greater than about 250 millidarcy.

1642. (amended) The method of claim 1608, wherein allowing the heat to transfer increases a permeability of a majority of the part of the formation such that the permeability of the majority of the part is substantially uniform.

1645. (amended) The method of claim 1608, further comprising providing heat from heaters to at least a portion of the formation, wherein the heaters are located in the formation in a unit of heaters, and wherein the unit of heaters comprises a triangular pattern.

1646. (amended) The method of claim 1608, further comprising providing heat from heaters to at least a portion of the formation, wherein the heaters are located in the formation in a unit of heaters, wherein the unit of heaters comprises a triangular pattern, and wherein a plurality of the units are repeated over an area of the formation to form a repetitive pattern of units.

1647. (amended) A method of treating a hydrocarbon containing formation in situ, comprising:
providing heat from one or more heaters positioned in heater wells to at least a portion of the formation;

allowing the heat to transfer from one or more of the heaters to a part of the formation;
wherein at least some hydrocarbons within the part of the formation have an initial atomic hydrogen weight percentage of greater than about 4.0 %; and
producing a mixture from the formation.

1648. (amended) The method of claim 1647, wherein one or more of the heaters comprise at least two heaters, and wherein controlled superposition of heat from at least the two heaters pyrolyzes at least some hydrocarbons within the part of the formation.

1654. (amended) The method of claim 1647, further comprising controlling a pressure and a temperature within at least a majority of the part of the formation, wherein the pressure is controlled as a function of temperature, or the temperature is controlled as a function of pressure.

1655. (amended) The method of claim 1647, further comprising pyrolyzing hydrocarbons within the part of the formation, and controlling the heat such that an average heating rate of the part of the formation is less than about 1 °C per day in a pyrolysis temperature range of about 270 °C to about 400 °C.

1656. (amended) The method of claim 1647, wherein providing heat from one or more of the heaters to at least the portion of the formation comprises:

heating a selected volume (V) of the hydrocarbon containing formation from one or more of the heaters, wherein the formation has an average heat capacity (C_v), and wherein the heating pyrolyzes at least some hydrocarbons within the selected volume of the formation; and

wherein heating energy/day (Pwr) provided to the selected volume is equal to or less than $h*V*C_v*\rho_B$, wherein ρ_B is formation bulk density, and wherein an average heating rate (h) of the selected volume is about 10 °C/day.

1658. (amended) The method of claim 1647, wherein allowing the heat to transfer to the part of the formation heats the part of the formation to increase a thermal conductivity of at least a portion of the part of the formation to greater than about 0.5 W/(m °C).

1670. (amended) The method of claim 1647, wherein the produced mixture comprises a non-condensable component that does not condense at 25° C and one atmosphere absolute pressure, wherein the non-condensable component comprises molecular hydrogen, wherein the molecular hydrogen is greater than about 10 % by volume of the non-condensable component, and wherein the molecular hydrogen is less than about 80 % by volume of the non-condensable component.

1673. (amended) The method of claim 1647, further comprising controlling a pressure within at least a majority of the part of the formation, wherein the controlled pressure is at least about 2.0 bar absolute.

1680. (amended) The method of claim 1647, wherein allowing the heat to transfer increases a permeability of a majority of the part of the formation to greater than about 250 millidarcy.

1681. (amended) The method of claim 1647, wherein allowing the heat to transfer increases a permeability of a majority of the part of the formation such that the permeability of the majority of the part of the formation is substantially uniform.

1684. (amended) The method of claim 1647, further comprising providing heat from heaters to at least a portion of the formation, wherein the heaters are located in the formation in a unit of heaters, and wherein the unit of heaters comprises a triangular pattern.

1685. (amended) The method of claim 1647, further comprising providing heat from heaters to at least a portion of the formation, wherein the heaters are located in the formation in a unit of heaters, wherein the unit of heaters comprises a triangular pattern, and wherein a plurality of the units are repeated over an area of the formation to form a repetitive pattern of units.

5400. (amended) A method of treating a hydrocarbon containing formation in situ, comprising:
providing heat from one or more heaters positioned in heater wells to at least a portion of the formation;

allowing the heat to transfer from one or more of the heaters to a selected section of the formation;

wherein at least some hydrocarbons within the selected section have an initial atomic hydrogen weight percentage of greater than about 4.0 %; and
producing a mixture from the formation.

5402. (amended) The method of claim 5400, wherein the one or more heaters comprise at least two heaters, and wherein controlled superposition of heat from at least the two heaters pyrolyzes at least some hydrocarbons within the selected section.

5404. (amended) The method of claim 5400, wherein at least one of the one or more heaters comprises a natural distributed combustor.

5406. (amended) The method of claim 5400, further comprising pyrolyzing hydrocarbons within the part of the formation and controlling the heat such that an average heating rate of the part of the formation is less than about 1 °C per day within a pyrolysis temperature range of about 270 °C to about 400 °C.

5407. (amended) The method of claim 5400, wherein providing heat from the one or more heaters to at least the portion of the formation comprises:

heating a selected volume (V) of the hydrocarbon containing formation from one or more of the heaters, wherein the formation has an average heat capacity (C_v), and wherein the heating pyrolyzes at least some hydrocarbons within the selected volume of the formation; and

wherein heating energy/day (P_{wr}) provided to the selected volume is equal to or less than $h*V*C_v*\rho_B$, wherein ρ_B is formation bulk density, and wherein an average heating rate (h) of the selected volume is about 10 °C/day.

5412. (amended) The method of claim 5400, wherein at least about 20 heaters are disposed in the formation for each production well.